

California Department of Fish and Game
Marine Resources Operations
California State Fisheries Laboratory
Terminal Island, California

Cruise Report 61-S-8 Rockfish

Vessel: N.B. SCOFIELD

Dates: Departed from San Pedro Nov. 24, 1961.
Returned to San Pedro Dec. 4, 1961.

Locality: Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, and Santa Barbara Islands.

Purpose: 1. To capture blue rockfish, Sebastes mystinus by hook and line for tagging and for food and age studies.
2. To collect other species of rockfish for taxonomic studies.

Results: In all, 507 blue rockfish were tagged; most required deflation of the air bladder and a few had to have their stomachs pushed back into normal position after they were everted by the expanded air bladder. All fish were anesthetized in a 1: 15,000 solution of MS 222.

Blue rockfish were caught in depths ranging from a few feet below the surface to almost 150 feet. The largest concentrations were around San Miguel Island where olive, vermilion and copper rockfishes were also quite abundant.

Thirty-four stomach and scale samples were obtained from the blue rockfish and five stomach samples were collected from lingcod, Ophiodon elongatus. In addition, several otoliths and partially digested small fish taken from the stomachs of the various rockfish, were preserved for identification.

Copper rockfish, S. caurinus, vermilion rockfish, S. miniatus, black-and-yellow rockfish, S. chrysomelas, and juvenile olive rockfish, S. serranoides, were saved for taxonomic studies.

Eight rockfish (rosy, S. rosaceus (2), speckled, S. ovalis (2), widow, S. entomelus (1), vermilion (1), copper (1), and black-and-yellow (1)) were successfully decompressed; these along with a sculpin, Scorpaena guttata, two sarcastic fringeheads, Neoclinus blanchardi, and one petrale sole, Eopsetta jordani, were kept in a live tank and delivered to Marineland of the Pacific.

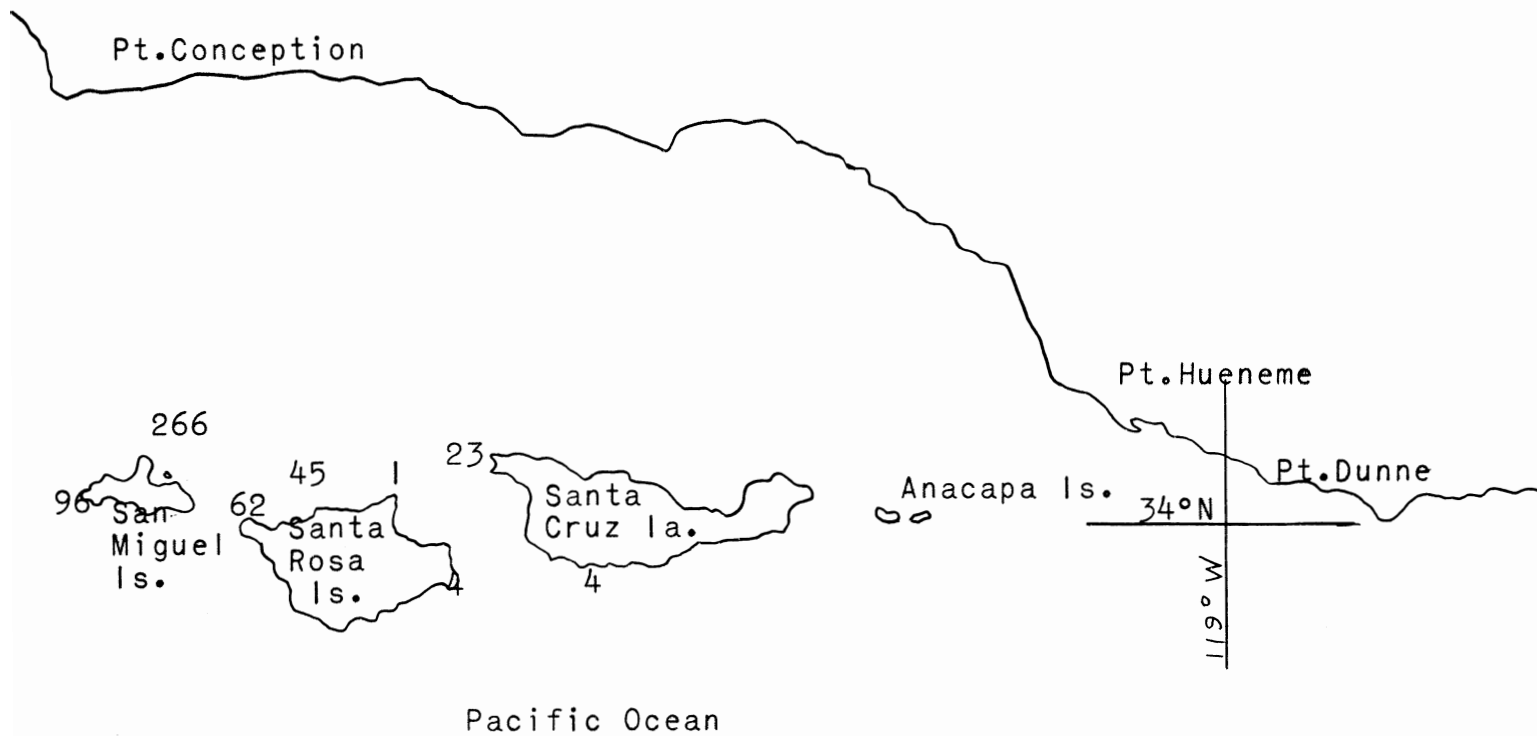
Other species caught on hook and line included:

Cabazon, Scorpaenichthys marmoratus
Ocean whitefish, Caulolatilus princeps
Kelp bass, Paralabrax clathratus

California sheephead, Pimelometopon pulchrum
Pacific sanddab, Citharichthys sordidus
Gopher rockfish, Sebastes carnatus
Flag rockfish, S. rubrivinctus
Kelp rockfish, S. atrovirens
Yellowtail rockfish, S. flavidus
Honeycomb rockfish, S. umbrosus
Starry rockfish, S. constellatus
Bocaccio, S. paucispinis
Squarespot rockfish, S. hopkinsi

Personnel: R.B. Mitchell - Vessel Captain
Dan Gotshall - Biologist
Don Johnson - Seasonal Aid

N.B. SCOFIELD
Cruise S-61 -8



Legend
266=Number Blue
Rockfish Tagged
and Released

San
Nicolas Is.

3 Santa
Barbara Is.
3 Osborn
Bank